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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> |  | Application Number     | 10/656,746        |
|  |  | Filing Date            | September 4, 2003 |
|  |  | First Named Inventor   | Kanbe, Tetsuya    |
|  |  | Art Unit               | Unassigned        |
|  |  | Examiner Name          | Unassigned        |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission   |  | Attorney Docket Number | 16869G-086800US   |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)  |  |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s)<br><i>(please identify below):</i><br>1. Supplemental ADS<br>2. Return Postcard |
| Remarks  |  | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.   |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT |  |
|--|--|
| Firm or Individual                         | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP<br>David N. Slone Reg. No. 28,572 |
| Signature                                  | <i>David Slone</i>   |
| Date                                       | January 5, 2004  |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING   |                      |      |                 |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. |                      |      |                 |
| Typed or printed name   | M. Diane Dubé        |      |                 |
| Signature   | <i>M. Diane Dubé</i> | Date | January 5, 2004 |



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869G-086800US  
Client Reference No.: 340201353

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

TETSUYA KANBE et al.

Application No.: 10/656,746

Filed: September 4, 2003

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING  
MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC  
RECORDING APPARATUS

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER  
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Respectfully submitted,

*David Slone*

David N. Slone  
Reg. No. 28,572

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400 / Fax: 650-326-2422  
DNS:dd  
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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO   |      |                        | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                   |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |      |                        | Application Number       | 10/656,746        |
|   |      |                        | Filing Date              | September 4, 2003 |
|   |      |                        | First Named Inventor     | Tetsuya Kanbe     |
|   |      |                        | Art Unit                 | Unassigned        |
|   |      |                        | Examiner Name            | Unassigned        |
| Sheet 1   | of 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 16869G-086800US          |                   |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+ |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials*  | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                          | Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                        | 1                        | US-5,830,584                             | 11-03-1998                     | Chen et al.  |   |
|                        | 2                        | US-5,693,426                             | 12-02-1997                     | Lee et al.   |   |
|                        |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|                        |                          |  |                                |  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   |                                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                     |                                   | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup>                      |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                             |   |   |                                     |
|                          | 3                     | JP                        | 2001-209927         |                                   | 08-03-2001                  | Asahi Komagu KK                                 |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | 4                     | JP                        | 08-212531           |                                   | 08-20-1996                  | Hitachi Ltd.                                    |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | 5                     | JP                        | 04-188427           |                                   | 07-07-1992                  | Sumitomo Metal Mining Co. Ltd.                  |   | abstract only                       |
|                          |                       |                           |                     |                                   |                             |   |   |                                     |

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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.  
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|---|---|----|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |   |    | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |                 |
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|   |   |    | First Named Inventor     | Kanbe, Tetsuya         |                 |
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|   |   |    | Examiner Name            | Unassigned             |                 |
| Sheet   | 2 | of | 2                        | Attorney Docket Number | 16869G-086800US |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials *          | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | 6                        | ABARRA et al., "Longitudinal magnetic recording media with thermal stabilization layers," Appl. Phys. Lett. 77:2581-2583 (2000).  |                |
|                                 | 7                        | FULLERTON et al., "Antiferromagnetically coupled magnetic media layers for thermally stable high-density recording," Appl. Phys. Lett. 77:3806-3808 (2000).   |                |
|                                 | 8                        | LEE et al. "MgO seed layers for CoCrPt/Cr longitudinal magnetic recording media," Appl. Phys. Lett. 67:3638-3640 (1995).  |                |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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<sup>2</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.